Rural Godowns is being implemented through National Bank of Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). Under the Yojana, NABARD has sanctioned 995 projects with a total capacity of 59.29 lakh tonnes and NCDC has sanctioned 1575 projects with a capacity of 7.42 lakh tonnes as on 31.3.2003. Rural Godowns constructed under the Yojana will provide the farming community with the facility for scientific storage and enable it to avail pledge loan to meet its credit requirement without being compelled to sell the produce at a time when prices are low.

(d) As the Farmer Expansion Service Scheme (FESS) project is not under implementation by the Department of Agriculture and cooperation or the Department of Food and Public Distribution, the details of the same are not available.

(e) to (g) In order to reduce the hardship of farmers and to avoid distress sale of paddy, the specifications for procurement of paddy in Orissa have since been relaxed by the Government of India with effect from 11.6.2003 during the current Kharif Marketing Season. The FCI has also opened 20 centres in the State for procurement of paddy and has so far procured 497 tonnes of paddy.

**Foodgrain for drought affected States**

448. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the drought affected States for supply of foodgrains from the Central Pool; and

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains allotted by the Centre to the States which are severely affected by the drought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the allocation of foodgrains made to the drought affected States is annexed.

***Statement***

*Allocation of foodgrains to the drought affected states*

(lakh MTs)

| S.No. | State | Allocation of Foodgrains |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 17.20 |
| 2. | Chhattisgarh | 4.74 |
| 3. | Gujarat | 3.06 |
| 4. | Haryana | 0.25 |
| 5. | Himachal Pradesh | 0.10 |
| 6. | Jharkhand | 0.40 |
| 7. | Karnataka | 7.20 |
| 8. | Kerala | 0.52 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | 7.80 |
| 10. | Maharashtra | 2.32 |
| 11. | Orissa | 6.44 |
| 12. | Rajasthan | 31.10 |
| 13. | Tamil Nadu | 4.50 |
| 14. | Uttaranchal | 0.50 |
| 15. | Uttar Pradesh | 2.00 |
| | TOTAL : | 88.13 |

**Review of foodgrain export policy**

449. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to review the foodgrain export policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the new policy is likely to dispense with W.T.O. compatible subsidies being paid to the exporters of foodgrains; and